

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A dispersion of particles in a non-aqueous non-silicone organic medium comprising at least one acrylic polymer comprising:

(A) a skeleton that is insoluble in said medium; and

(B) a portion of said polymer that is soluble in said medium, comprising side chains covalently bonded to said skeleton, wherein said polymer is obtained polymerization of:

(i) at least one acrylic monomer, to form the said insoluble skeleton; and

(ii) at least one carbon-based macromonomer comprising an end group that reacts during said polymerization to form said side chains, wherein said macromonomer is a polyolefin containing an end group selected from the group consisting of a vinyl group and a (meth)acryloyloxy group, said macromonomer having a weight-average molecular mass of at least 200 and representing ~~0.052~~2% to ~~20~~16% by weight of the polymer, and

wherein said polymer particles have a mean size ranging from 10-400nm, and

wherein said non-aqueous non-silicone organic medium comprises at least 50% by weight of at least one non-aqueous non-silicone liquid compound selected from the group consisting of:

(i) non-aqueous non-silicone liquid compounds having a global solubility parameter according to the Hansen solubility space of less than or equal to $17 \text{ (MPa)}^{1/2}$;

(ii) monoalcohols having a global solubility parameter according to the Hansen solubility space of less than or equal to $20 \text{ (MPa)}^{1/2}$; and

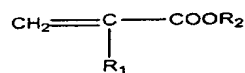
(iii) mixtures thereof;

provided that said dispersions are stable and do not phase separate.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The dispersion of claim 1, wherein said acrylic monomer is selected, alone or as a mixture, from the group consisting of:

(i) the ~~(meth)~~acrylates of formula



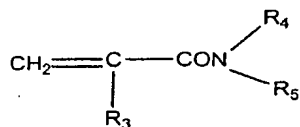
wherein:

- R₁ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; and
- R₂ is:

(a) a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, said group optionally containing in its chain one or more hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O, N and S and optionally containing one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, F, Cl, Br, I, and -NR'R'', wherein R' and R'', which may be identical or different, are linear or branched C₁-C₄ alkyls, optionally substituted with at least one polyoxyalkylene group, said polyoxyalkylene group consisting of a repetition of 5 to 30 oxyalkylene units; or

(b) a cyclic alkyl group containing from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, said group optionally containing in its chain one or more hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of O, N and S and optionally containing one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, F, Cl, Br and I;

(ii) the ~~(meth)~~acrylamides of formula



wherein:

- R₃ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; and

- R₄ and R₅, which may be identical or different, are:

(a) hydrogen atoms or linear or branched alkyl groups containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, said groups optionally containing one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -OH, F, Cl, Br, I, and -NR'R'', wherein R' and R'', which may be identical or different, are linear or branched C₁-C₄ alkyls; or

(b) R₄ is a hydrogen atom and R₅ is a 1,1-dimethyl-3-oxobutyl group; and

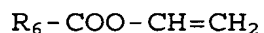
(iii) ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least one carboxylic acid, phosphoric acid or sulphonic acid function; and the salts thereof.

4. (original) The dispersion of claim 1, wherein said acrylic monomer is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and isobutyl (meth)acrylates; methoxyethyl (meth)acrylate; ethoxyethyl (meth)acrylate; trifluoroethyl methacrylate; dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate; diethylaminoethyl methacrylate; 2-hydroxypropyl methacrylate; 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl acrylate; 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate; dimethylaminopropylmethacrylamide; and the salts thereof.

5. (original) The dispersion of claim 1, wherein said acrylic polymer is obtained by free-radical polymerization of one or more acrylic monomers as a mixture with one or more additional non-acrylic vinyl monomers.

6. (original) The dispersion of claim 5, wherein the additional non-acrylic vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) vinyl esters of formula:



wherein:

R₆ is a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 6 atoms, a cyclic alkyl group containing from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, or an aromatic group;

(ii) ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least one carboxylic acid, phosphoric acid or sulphonic acid function; and

(iii) ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least one tertiary amine function.

7. (original) The dispersion of claim 6, wherein R_6 is selected from the group consisting of benzene, anthracene, and naphthalene.

8. (original) The dispersion of claim 6, wherein said additional non-acrylic vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of crotonic acid; maleic anhydride; itaconic acid; fumaric acid; maleic acid; styrenesulphonic acid; vinylbenzoic acid; vinylphosphoric acid; and the salts thereof.

9. (original) The dispersion of claim 6, wherein said additional non-acrylic vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of 2-vinylpyridine and 4-vinylpyridine, and mixtures thereof.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) The dispersion according to claim 1, wherein said carbon-based macromonomer has a weight-average molecular mass (M_w) from 200 to 100,000.

12. (original) The dispersion of claim 11, wherein said weight-average molecular mass (M_w) is from 300 to 50,000.

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The dispersion of claim 1 ~~15~~, wherein said polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene macromonomers, polypropylene macromonomers, polyisobutylene macromonomers, and polybutadiene macromonomers, all of which contain a monoacrylate or monomethacrylate end group; polyisoprene macromonomers containing a monoacrylate or monomethacrylate end group; poly(ethylene/butylene)-polyisoprene

macromonomers containing a monoacrylate or monomethacrylate end group; and macromonomers of polyethylene/polypropylene copolymers or of polyethylene/polybutylene copolymers containing a monoacrylate or monomethacrylate end group.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The dispersion of claim 1 —~~17~~, wherein said proportion is from 4-15% by weight.

19. (original) The dispersion of claim 1, wherein the weight-average molecular mass (Mw) of said acrylic polymer is between 10,000 and 300,000.

20. (original) The dispersion of claim 19, wherein said weight-average molecular mass (Mw) of said acrylic polymer is between 20,000 and 200,000.

21. (canceled)

22. (original) The dispersion of claim 1, wherein said dispersion has a solids content (or dry extract) of from 4-70% by weight.

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)